

***Business Area #4:  
Central Square***

**Boundaries:** the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Western Avenue, Pleasant Street, Green Street, Sellers Street, Bigelow Street, Doyle Way, Inman Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: shops, offices, restaurants between 200 and 830 Massachusetts Avenue, offices on Bishop Allen Drive, restaurants on Green Street, establishments between 770 and 910 Main Street, and City Hall

*Central Square*

**Larcenies from buildings** have increased slightly in 2005 over 2004. A continuing trend has been the theft of wallets from health clubs on Massachusetts Avenue in early March to late August. Thefts of unattended laptops from office buildings and schools between remain a problem in this area. • After recording eight **commercial robberies** over the first two quarters of 2005, there were but six additional incidents over the final six months of the year. Three of these incidents were bank robberies where notes were passed. An unknown suspect robbed a taxi cab driver with a gun demanding money. In a number of these burglaries, doors had been pried open with pry bars. Some of these were unsuccessful attempts. • **Commercial burglary** decreased dramatically in 2005 in Central Square. • **Larcenies from persons** in Central Square increased 14% in 2005. There has been a marked increase in pickpockets targeting diners in cafes, restaurants and coffee shops. Professional thieves prey on female victims with their purses hanging over the back of chairs in coffee shops. Another type of professional thief prowls bars on Friday and Saturday nights, stealing unattended items such as coats, cell phones and purses. • A high percentage of the **shoplifting** arrests in the Central Square business district are at clothing, grocery and drug stores. Suspects listing their address as local shelters make up the majority of the arrestees for this crime.

CRIME	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Larceny from Building	95	87	98	82	87
Larceny from Person	77	81	99	86	98
Commercial Burglary	23	57	18	49	15
Commercial Robbery	2	7	7	8	14
Shoplifting	63	104	75	78	119
Fraud/Flim	75	95	83	88	79
Flam/Counterfeiting					